

Brother J. Allen Miller is spending his vacation at Ashland. His presence here however means a little more than a mere vacation, the secret of which will be made known next week.

Brother D. J. Meyers says that canvassing for the EVANGELIST should be much easier now since the price is reduced to \$1.00, tho some may complain that the paper is too small for the money.

Brother J. R. Keller reports a very successful meeting at Falls City, Neb., resulting in ten additions. He says an effort will be made to get the EVANGELIST into every home in his congregation.

Brother E. B. Shaver closed his meeting at St. Luke, Va., with eighteen accessions. Another great victory for the Gospel-alone doctrine. This makes twenty-two accessions, since his last report.

These words appeared on a postal card addressed to this office, bearing neither date nor signature: "We are glad to hear that Rev. George A. Copp is again able to deliver his masterly sermons, after a long and painful illness."

Brother J. F. Koontz closed a meeting at Cone-maugh, Pa., with fifty-eight conversions, fifty-three by baptism. Brother Koontz is one of the quiet, but none the less successful, Gospel workers. This meeting was held in his home congregation and is certainly a great victory.

We are pleased to learn that the church at Williamson, Pa., is again united in its efforts for the Master. Brother Joshua Long held an interesting meeting for the Brethren at this place, greatly encouraging all the members of the congregation. Several were added to the church.

Brother D. J. Bole says: "I hope that all pastors and laymen will fall in line and make for the 3000, and if possible 5000. I am not able to express myself as others do about the literature, but I can truthfully say we never had any better, and each quarter there are some improvements." Thanks. We appreciate what you say.

In this issue Brother Grisso gives a report of his first nine months' work at North Liberty and Ankenytown, Ohio. The report is very encouraging, and his methods of work very commendable. Several have been added to the church during this time and the membership greatly built up. Brother Grisso is faithful and devoted to his calling.

Brother Zed Copp sends us the following on a postal card: "Six connected themselves with this congregation, Sunday, one by baptism, one G. B., and the others by letter. God is abundantly blessing his work here. A merry Christmas to all. Let each of us strive to more fully appreciate God's Christmas gift, John 3:16, and labor more earnestly to bring others to accept it."

Brother Darling sends us the following report of his Rosedale meeting: "The revival at Rosedale closed last Sunday evening with sixty-nine accessions to the church. It was the largest revival that has been held here in recent years. God wondrously blessed the efforts of pastor and people. And we are all rejoicing in the grand work that has been done. Will write more in the near future."

When last heard from the meeting at Hudson, Iowa, had not yet closed. Under date of Dec. 15, Brother Gillen writes: "Up to date twenty-nine have come out on the Lord's side. More are near the kingdom. We have communion to-night. It has been a blessed meeting. Through the influence of the meetings the illegal saloon has been closed. We have baptism to-day. Will give a

full report later." **LATER.**—The meeting at Hudson closed with thirty-one accessions. A full report will appear next week.

Brother Ditch expects to begin revival services at Roann, Jan. 3, 1897. He reports good interest in all departments of church work. Two excellent young men, both workers in the K. C. have recently united with them, and another who was at death's door with that dread disease—consumption. He also says that the EVANGELIST pleases him more and more with each number. Brother Ditch is an earnest and hard working pastor. There is perhaps no other congregation receiving an equal number of subscriptions to the EVANGELIST, in proportion to the membership.

### WAYS OF WORKING.

There is more than one way of doing the same kind of work, tho as a rule there is but one right way. Methods of church work vary. The same system of work which proves successful in one congregation, might fail in another. The method must be determined very largely by the nature of the people composing the congregation, the environments, early training, etc. There is one thing which the pastor must respect if he would be successful, and that is the law of *adaptation*—"all things to all men," and the motive must be the same as that which prompted Paul, "that I might by all means save some." After a careful study of the congregation, let the pastor adopt such a system as will accomplish the greatest good. In the *Record of Christian Work* Rev. Kerr B. Tupper, who went recently to Philadelphia from Denver, Col., to take the pastorate of the First Baptist Church, thus explains his methods of work in Denver, and said he was going to work pretty much along the same lines in his Philadelphia charge. The principles of the plan, we believe, will be helpful to our people as they are plain, simple and easily applied:

A pastor, he said, to make a successful church, should do two things first of all: He should first ascertain the working power of the church and set it in motion; and then calculate the latent power and try to develop that.

He believed that every member of the church should be especially interested in some definite work, and that the pastor should be cognizant of what that particular work was; and believing this, he had, in his previous pastorate, divided the church work up into four great departments, namely, the Evangelistic Department, the Prayer Meeting Department, the Missionary Department, and the Social Department. Then he briefly explained each department on a card, and sent one to each member of the church.

On the back of this card was the following pledge:

### MY PLEDGE.

Heartily in sympathy with the purposes of the Committee on Efficiency, and wishing to unite with it in its work, I do hereby pledge myself to work specially during the coming year in the\*  
..... Department.

Name .....

Residence .....

[\*Let each one specify here the department or departments which he may select.]

The result of these cards was that 362 persons pledged themselves for missionary work (mostly women), 510 for evangelistic work, 604 for prayer-meeting work, and 782 to take part in the social work.

Another thing he had found very profitable in the prayer-meeting work was the issuance of a card with the object of ascertaining just what each member of the church was going to do in regard to that important meeting, not only as to whether they were going to attend, but what those who did intend to be present would be willing to do.

This card elicited that 610 persons would attend and do nothing else, 409 would read, 174 would speak, and 96 would offer prayer.

### VALUABLE HELPERS.

Pastor and people will be profited by reading and acting on these suggestions from the *Christian Advocate*:

The pastor who does not have the cordial cooperation of his official members in his evangelistic services is liable to experience difficulties where he has a right to expect encouragement. The material interests of the church are important, and many officers become absorbed in them; but the church is primarily a religious institution, and its spiritual welfare is paramount to its temporal concerns. "The Northern Christian Advocate" says that a most thoughtful and earnest pastor, in writing concerning a series of meetings for the deepening of the spiritual interests of his charge, remarked: "I called a meeting of the official members fifteen minutes before morning service for prayer and consultation. The response and spiritual interest manifested were very gratifying. Nearly all were present. I then invited all the officials to sit with me on the platform and back up the preaching with their presence and prayers, which they did. They are representative men of the town, and it was a real inspiration and help." The revival that finds its first manifestations among the office-bearers of a church is sure to arouse the conscience of the community and result in great and widespread blessing.